

said, "now it is yours" Safyan said: "I don't need it" upon this (Hazrat) Omar sent it to the Baitul-Mal.

3. When (Hazrat) Omar was in his death bed he sent a messenger to Aesha with some message, and instructed him to speak on behalf of (Hazrat) Omar and not on behalf of the commander of the faithful, for he was not the commander of the faithful at that time as he was not in a condition to perform the duties of his office.

This is the highest point beyond which honesty can not go.

STORY 23.

THE IDEAL OF HUMILITY IN ISLAM.

HUMILITY is the virtue of the truly great who realise the limitations of their nature. Such people cannot but be humble.

To the proud Arab humility was the most difficult of virtues. But such was the magic effect of Islam that humility became a very common virtue among them. A good Muslim is always humble.

1. It is related of Maroof Karkhi that one Id morning he arrayed himself in his best clothes and proceeded to the Mosque to say his Id Prayers. He was going along when some one emptied into the street a basketful of ashes from the top of a house which stood by the side of the street. The whole heap of ashes fell on the head of Maroof spoiling his new dress his hair and his beard into which he had poured scented oil.

Did he fly into rage? Did he fret and foam and abuse the person who had so deeply injured him? No! He calmly went back to his home, changed his clothes, washed his head and beard and went to the Mosque quite cheerful as if nothing had happened. Weak human nature cried for vengeance. But he silenced these clamours by addressing it in these words: "O Maroof thou deservest fire. Why shouldst thou turn away from ashes". The person who had